IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 17 and 24 as shown below.

1. - 16. (Previously Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method for treating heart failure in a subject, comprising:

a) administering an angiotensin II (AT_1) receptor inhibitor to said subject for a first period beginning at about the time of a myocardial infarction;

b) reducing administration of said angiotensin II (AT_1) receptor inhibitor after said initial period; and

c) administering ~~a~~ human growth hormone during a second period beginning after said reducing administration of said AT_1 receptor inhibitor.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said first period has a duration of about 10 to 12 weeks.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the AT_1 receptor inhibitor is administered at least once daily.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein AT_1 receptor inhibitor administration is discontinued following said first period.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said AT_1 receptor inhibitor comprises losartan.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said growth hormone is administered for about two weeks to about three months.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said reducing of AT_1 receptor inhibitor allows for a favorable physiologic hypertrophic effect from said growth hormone.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of treating heart failure in a subject, comprising;

a) administering an angiotensin II (AT_1) receptor inhibitor to said subject over a first period beginning about the time of an ischemic event, and said first period continuing for a sufficient amount of time to substantially permit favorable left ventricular remodeling or limit unfavorable ventricular remodeling;

b) decreasing said administering of AT_1 receptor inhibitor at a time approximately after said ventricular remodeling; and

c) administering ~~a~~ human growth hormone to said subject during a second period beginning at a time approximately after said ventricular remodeling.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein administering said AT_1 receptor inhibitor is discontinued at about the time administering said growth hormone begins.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the angiotensin II (AT_1) receptor inhibitor is administered at least once daily.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein administration of said AT_1 receptor inhibitor is discontinued at about the time administering said growth hormone begins.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said administration of said AT_1 receptor inhibitor following said ventricular remodeling is decreased prior to the end of said first period.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said AT_1 receptor inhibitor comprises losartan.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said growth hormone is human growth hormone.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said AT_1 receptor inhibitor is administered beginning within seven days of said ischemic event.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said AT_1 receptor inhibitor is administered for about 8 to about 12 weeks.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said AT_1 receptor inhibitor is administered for about 10 weeks.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said growth hormone is administered for about two weeks to about three months.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein a second administration of a composition comprising AT_1 receptor inhibitor is administered for a time following said growth hormone administration.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein growth hormone is administered following said second administration of AT_1 receptor inhibitor.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein decreasing said administering of AT_1 receptor inhibitor allows for a favorable physiologic hypertrophic effect from said growth hormone.